

Tsarkov, Alex

From: Derek Hunt [derek.hunt@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2011 9:37 PM
To: Tsarkov, Alex
Subject: My opinion on SB 1094, SB 1096, SB 1210

Hello as I am unable to directly attend the Judiciary committee public hearing, please include my testimony (this is based on a previous email sent to members of the committee):

I am a resident of Middletown, CT. I am a father, husband lawful citizen and a tax payer. I am also responsible, legal gun owner.

I am writing you to express my firm opposition to bills: SB 1094 and SB1096.

Bill SB1094 would turn free citizens, who currently own legal firearms into felons. Owners of "high capacity" magazines will need to surrender and forfeit their magazines to the state. I paid for these magazines with hard earned money. All of my magazines are high capacity. In my case, surrendering these magazine will leave me without a means to defend myself and my family. I do not feel comfortable knowing that I am rendered helpless to defend my wife and three children. Home invasion and violent robbery do occur in Connecticut. When I lived in Hamden, my house was robbed twice so I am well aware that crime is a reality not a statistic - it is an unfortunate reality. During the recent police layoff issues in New Haven, the Police Union President suggested citizens arm themselves. I work in New Haven and I can assure you that is not a safe city. Criminals will not abide by "high capacity" magazine law. Generally speaking, criminals do not abide by any gun laws - hence being a criminal. These bills will only affect responsible, law abiding gun owners from adequately defending themselves and their families.

Seizure of private property from law abiding citizens is wrong.

Please respect the rights of thousands upon thousands of gun owners in Connecticut. **Please, do not pass SB 1094 and SB 1096 into law.**

Freedom is sacred. It should be cherished and defended. The removal of the rights guaranteed by the Constitution simply changes the status of a free citizen who can defend themselves to that of a subject. The right to bear arms is one of the many freedoms that separate us from other nations.

Aristotle understood this freedom: "Both oligarch and tyrant mistrust the people, and therefore deprive them of arms."

Please do not pass these bills into law. Connecticut should be known as a state that champions the individual's rights, be it freedom of speech, religion, sexual preference or the right to bear arms. It should not be the state that begins the road to oppression.

Conversely, I do support SB 1210: An Act Concerning The Use Of Deadly Physical Force To Defend Residents Of A Home.

Please allow home owners to protect themselves and their family from unlawful intruders.

Thank you,

- Derek J. Hunt
Middletown, CT

3/23/2011